REMARKS

The applicant thanks the Examiner for his examination of the subject application thus far. The applicant submits that the claims, as amended, are patentable over the cited prior art for the following reasons:

Schmidt Jr. does not disclose "matching criteria"

In the Detailed Action, all claims were rejected on the basis that they were anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by Schmidt, Jr. et al. (US6778642) ("Schmidt, Jr."). The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As originally filed, the claims recited "at least one matching criteria", and as currently amended, "one or more collating criterion". This amendment was made to correct the grammar of the claims and to clarify the claim language. The one or more collating criterion is dynamically applied to messages by a collating application (see, for example, claim 10 and paragraph 32 of the currently pending application). As one example, the collating criterion is used to match entries with an address book (see, for example, claim 12 and paragraph 32 of the currently pending application).

The applicant submits that Schmidt, Jr. does not disclose such collating criteria. Rather, Schmidt, Jr. merely discloses that a user may view all of one type of message, such as e-mail, fax, voice mail, or all messages (Schmidt, Jr., column 6, lines 27-39). While Schmidt, Jr. does suggest that a user may view messages that had been destined for either a user's home or office, Schmidt, Jr. does not teach a system that utilizes a collating criterion to identify those messages. The collating criterion of the present application may comprise address book data; all that Schmidt, Jr. indicates is that "UMS server 340 may stores input messages where each message has an associated identifier indicating each message's destination" (Schmidt, Jr., column 7, lines 11-14). Schmidt, Jr., however, does not indicate that this "identifier" is a collating criterion such as address book data.

Schmidt Jr. does not disclose dynamically retrieving and display

Furthermore, the applicant traverses the finding in the Detailed Action that Schmidt, Jr. teaches

"dynamically retrieving... and... displaying" messages or message fragments, for example as recited in claim 1. The dynamic nature of the collating application recited in claim 1 and the other pending claims of this application is described in, *inter alia*, paragraph 36:

> As described above, collating application 30 dynamically determines which messages are related to a defined collating criteria, such as the address book entry for "Mary Johnson" in the example given. **As part of this process, collating application 30 also determines when new messages have arrived that are associated with the collating criteria.** The effect of newly received messages is shown with reference to the screen shot of main screen 50 shown in Figure 3. In the example of Figure 3, icon 52 shown in Figure 2 has been replaced by icon 56. As is shown in the example, when a new message matching the collating criteria is received by the communication device, there is a change to the icon on the screen to indicate the receipt of the new message... (emphasis added)

Thus, the dynamic aspect of the collating application comprises determining when new messages associated with the collating criteria have arrived. As shown in the figures referenced in the above-quoted passage, an icon may change to reflect newly received messages that match the collating criteria. It is not required that the user re-institute or re-enter the collating criteria in order to learn of newly received messages.

By contrast, Schmidt, Jr. does not disclose dynamic retrieval or display of messages. Schmidt, Jr. instead teaches away from a dynamic retrieval and display by directing that the user must initiate each view (see, for example, Schmidt, Jr., column 7, lines 29-45). Indeed, the only suggestion of continuous monitoring in Schmidt, Jr. is definitely *not* directed to dynamic retrieval and display as recited by the currently pending claims of this application; Schmidt, Jr. only discloses that its server "continuously monitors and responds to the activity of a user" so that the server may switch the display (column 7, lines 47-50), and *not* ongoing monitoring of messages that are to be included in the display to the user.

The claims as amended are not anticipated by Schmidt, Jr.

Claim 1, as amended, now reads:

> 1. A program product for execution on a communications device for receiving, storing and displaying heterogeneous messages from different communications channels, the messages being received via different communications channels being received in formats specific to each communications channel,

the communications device being capable of executing a plurality of message applications, each message application being associated with one of the communications channels and being executable to store and display messages received from the associated communications channel,

the program product comprising a medium having executable program code embodied in said medium, the executable program code comprising a collating application,

the executable program code comprising a collating application being executable on the communications device for dynamically retrieving heterogeneous messages stored by the plurality of message applications, said retrieved messages meeting at least one collating criterion, and for displaying an ordered listing of message fragments associated with at least one of said retrieved messages in a single view on the communications device.

As amended, claim 1 recites that the collating application is for "... displaying an ordered listing of message fragments associated with each of said retrieved messages in a single view..." With reference to paragraph 44 and Figures 5a and 5b of the application, it can be seen that an ordered listing (e.g., chronological or reverse chronological, as the case may be) is provided. For example, Figure 5b depicts a display that comprises not only information drawn from the header of an electronic message, which, as those skilled in the art appreciate, includes the timestamp and subject line, but also portions of the messages themselves (note the phrase "I'm just getting on the bus shortly" in Figure 5b). This single list, comprising at least one message fragment, thus presents a "conversational paradigm as applied to arbitrary channels of message delivery" (paragraph 44).

Schmidt, Jr., however, does not disclose such a system that provides a display of messages in accordance with a conversational paradigm. Indeed, Schmidt, Jr. teaches away from an ordered presentation as recited in the currently amended claims, stating that "users commit more errors when accessing messages that are arranged chronologically, than when accessing messages that are arranged by message type" (column 1, lines 60-65). The subject matter of the currently pending claims thus presents an advantage over Schmidt, Jr. in that the ordered listing of messages, which comprises message fragments, provides the user with more information and the opportunity to identify a message not only by header information, but also by content.

The above submissions apply equally to all of claims 1 through 18. Having regard to the above amended claims and submissions, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

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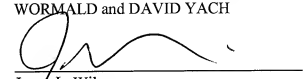

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